

THE PACIFIC COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

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EDITORIAL ARTICLES.

[FROM THE DAILY P. C. A.]

THE news from the East which the Alameda brought us is both good and bad. The Mexican Treaty has passed the Senate by more than the requisite two-thirds majority. This augurs well for our own Treaty and combining all the information we have received from various quarters we feel confident that the "abrogation" resolution will be defeated by a large majority. Our advice also encourage us to believe that we shall secure a definite renewal of the Treaty for a number of years; but of course we do not venture to count any such chickens as this before the hatching process is complete. Then as to the threatened further reduction of duties on sugar our recent statement that there is no chance of this being carried this year is confirmed, with the additional assurance that further attempts in this direction are equally unlikely to be successful for some years to come. On this subject the *Washington Republican* says: "Mr. Randall said to an intimate friend last evening: 'The Mexican Bill will have no chance in the House and, even should it pass in that body, it would be overwhelmingly defeated in the Senate. It can be put down as settled beyond all doubt there will be no tariff legislation during the present session. There will be some efforts made by members from wool-growing districts to secure more protection but it will be impossible to do anything for them. They will have to grin and bear it, consoled by the reflection that they are suffering for the good of the party. We can't afford to open up any question bearing upon the tariff. At least not this year.'"

THE S. S. Australia brought two days' later news than the S. S. Alameda. The most important item, more especially to Englishmen, is the expressed desire of the British Government to test the opinion of the country in regard to the Egyptian policy. Mr. Gladstone has at last concluded that his Egyptian policy is not in accord with the sentiment of the House of Commons and he has therefore very wisely decided to dissolve Parliament. This step has no doubt been anticipated for many months past by the Conservative party and though they have waited patiently to acquire their object, it was only because they felt certain that it was close at hand. It will be hailed with gladness by all friends of the immortal Disraeli and in a few weeks we will learn the verdict of the British public.

In order to allay any anxiety that may exist upon the subject of Chinese immigration, we have been requested to make the following statement as to the course pursued by the Government, and as to their views and intentions. In April last year the Government protested publicly against the large influx of Chinese males then taking place which threatened to continue at a rate alarming to the country, and made known its intention of resisting it if continued after warning. Later, in deference to the experienced opinion of employers, the steamers carrying mails between China and the United States were allowed to bring here Chinese laborers to the extent of not more than 600 in any three months. This arrangement was made with the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., and was cancelled in October last, the cancellation to take effect on 1st January, 1884. At the same time it was intimated that a similar arrangement was intended to be made with an expected Hawaiian line of steamers. Up to the present time, however, no new permission to bring Chinese here has been issued to anyone. The Pacific Mail Steamship Co. have brought here a considerable number of Chinese by the City of Rio de Janeiro and the City of Tokio, claiming that the men had been contracted with in interior districts of China beforehand, under the permission held by the Company last year. These men, though their number exceeds the proper limit, have been admitted. But the Government,

in accordance with a Cabinet Resolution, has protested against the threatened further invasion, and their protest has already reached Hongkong, and been communicated to the Government of that colony, and published in the newspapers, both English and Chinese, there and at Canton. This protest and a copy of Regulations identical with those published here by authority yesterday, except in some words, immaterial to the general question of immigration, has also been communicated by this time to the agents of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. in San Francisco, and to the Chinese Minister at Washington.

We reserve our own comments on the action of the Government, the course pursued by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the general question of the policy of permitting any Chinese immigration whatever at this critical moment in our relations with the United States, to a future issue.

A SENSATIONAL story has been circulated about a man being flogged in the prison. Enquiry into the matter has convinced us that the man got exactly the sort of punishment that was most suitable to his offence, and the one most likely to make an impression on him if anything will. Besides positive disobedience of orders, the man was guilty of the use of language which rendered punishment a necessity. These offences were deliberately repeated after he had been threatened with a flogging. The administration of corporal punishment is in accordance with the regulations of the gaol, which were made with the sanction of the Privy Council. This class of punishment, so far from being obsolete in the civilized world, is being revived in many countries in which it had been disused, and the revival has been found to have been followed by good effects.

As to the man himself who has been flogged, it appears that he is serving a sentence of two years for cutting open one of the mail bags on board the steamer *Likeli*, and stealing the contents. He has served a sentence previously for larceny besides being convicted for drunkenness and for assault and battery. It does not, however, need any consideration of the man's previous record to lead us to say that he richly deserved the punishment he got, and that no discipline would be possible with prisoners sentenced to hard labor if such conduct and such language as he indulged in were overlooked or lightly treated.

THINGS IN GENERAL.

I learn from a statement made in your columns on Saturday last, that the Hawaiian Hotel has changed hands. Some people seem to think that there is a mine of wealth in this establishment. It would not appear so from the readiness with which the Doctor has disposed of his interest therein, but it is quite probable that the gentlemen who have leased the property will, by judicious management, be able to turn it to better account, and afford the public more accommodation than the late lessee. It is agreed on all sides that the Hotel is an actual necessity, and consequently it is equally necessary that it be conducted in a manner that will prove attractive to the public, and not such as to cause the place to be shunned and deserted. The doctor fitted it up in a gorgeous manner, and his successors will, no doubt, show him how his outlay might have been turned to profitable account.

Burglary and larceny have figured very prominently in the Police Court record of late, and it is a fortunate thing in the Keystone saloon affair that the "presentiment" of Mr. Judge took him to the premises at an early hour on Sunday morning. In my opinion such "attempts to commit larceny" would rarely or never occur if there was a properly organized police force in the town. More foreigners are wanted on the force. Not men who have been fifteen or twenty years in the country, and who might be considered eligible for the position by possessing a knowledge of the native language. Such qualifications do not constitute all that is required by a policeman. Let the Government import half-a-dozen or more thor-

oughly trained men, and there will be less crime in this city.

The troubles of "Ye olden times" were revived in a measure by the whaling barks *Mars* and *Hunter*. These refractory characters met with their just deserts at the hands of Consul McKinley, and they will, no doubt, learn before their Arctic cruise is over, that one of the first principles of an employee is obedience to his employer.

The German community celebrated the anniversary of the birthday of their venerable Emperor in a truly patriotic manner. The weather was decidedly unpropitious, but their arrangements were so perfect that there was little or no inconvenience experienced by the deluge that came down that afternoon. It would be gratifying if all nations would display a similar love of their mother country, or, as they call it, "Vaterland," to what the Germans do. I, for one, say, "Long live Emperor William."

Notwithstanding the efforts that have been made by your contemporaries to keep visitors and capital out of the country, it is reassuring to know that a large party of ladies and gentlemen from the Eastern States, have recently landed on these shores for the purpose of seeing the sights. I will venture to assert that they will leave the Islands with a favorable impression, and with a conviction that all that has been said with the object of keeping people away from the country, is not true.

When the small change (ten-cent pieces) is imported, it will be a boon to the public. A certain class of men who legitimately earn ten cents for services rendered, invariably take 25 cents, and if asked for change, they never have it. Clause 25, of the Regulations for Carriages, ought to be indelibly stamped on the mind of every hack driver, more especially that part which states, "who shall demand more than the authorized fare, &c."

Everyone is anxiously waiting to see a start made towards widening Merchant street. This proposed improvement has been on the programme of events for the past four or five years, but at the time of writing it seems as far off as ever.

If the Government regret their bargain in the purchase of the Anthon property, I am told they can easily get out of their trouble. A leading stock broker told me last Monday that he could place the same lot at a considerable advance over what the Government gave for it.

CROWQUILL.

Miscellaneous Reading

TRANSLATED.

[BY THE REV. RAY PALMER, D.D.]

Where art thou, dearest? Where?
Gone in a moment! Vanished from my sight!
As fades a vision of the silent night!
Into the great unknown
I know that not alone
Thy gentle spirit winged its airy way;
Nor yet with anxious fear, as one astray,
That lonely on doth fare.
Who gathered round thee then,
While on thy eyelids fell earth's last, deep sleep,
And loving eyes gazed on thee but to weep?
Jesus, thy Lord, was there;
With angels bright and fair,
To greet thy spirit yet untaught to range—
Her pinions all untried—through regions strange,
Beyond all mortal ken.
To thee, when thou didst wake,
'Twas e'en as when, night's brooding shadows gone,
On the tired watcher breaks the welcome dawn
That light and gladness sheds,
And o'er all nature spreads
Fresh life; while perfumed breath of dewy flowers,
And joyous songs from vocal groves and bowers,
Earth e'en as Eden made.
On thy just opening eyes
Fell, all Divine, the beauty of His smile,
Whom, yet unseen, thy faithful heart, the while
On earth it beat, adored;
That smile in sweetness poured,
So full then seemed of gentleness and grace
That thou couldst gaze upon that unveiled face,
Nor feel one fear arise.
That vision not yet past,
Methinks I hear His lips pronounce thy name!
When, at His voice, o'er thee strange rapture came
That all thy being filled,
And thy awed spirit stilled,
Lost in admiring love's impassioned glow,
With bliss so pure as none on earth may know;
Bliss evermore to last!
Thyself an angel there,
Or as the angels, spotless, pure and blest,
Though yearning still to fold thee to this breast,

Might heaven the dead allow
Could I recall thee now?
Wish thee again these mortal paths to tread,
Again to feel of death's keen shaft the dread,
And mortal anguish bear?
No, no; that were the love
To wrong, that though thine earthly years e'er
Knew
Aught but the good, the generous, the true;
That could thyself forget;
While tears of pity wet
Thy cheek full of at sight of others' woes;
And ever swiftly did thy hand unclose
That pity's truth to prove.
And thou dost live, heaven born,
The life of saintly love that, here begun,
Death ended not; onward that life shall run
Through heaven's immortal years;
Forgot earth's pangs and tears;
And I—O blissful hope—love's tasks with thee
Again shall share, when parts the veil for me,
And breaks the eternal morn!

THE FOUR YEARS LAW.

The *New York Herald* is of opinion that if the republicans and democrats wish to prove their sincerity in favoring civil service reform, they ought not to delay abolishing the "four years law," which now in a great measure nullifies the last Civil Service law by placing a very large number of important offices at the disposal of the President at intervals of four years. The law was passed in 1820 for a selfish object, and was signed by the President (Mr. Monroe) under a misapprehension of its real effects. These were, however, so soon realized that in the year it went into operation both Mr. Madison and Mr. Jefferson had pointed out its dangerous tendencies, and its repeal was unsuccessfully urged. The little mischief then done under this law could have been easily remedied, but the evil was allowed to continue and take deep root. Committees in Congress from time to time recommended its repeal, but the stakes at issue were so important as to prevent this salutary step. As Mr. Curtis recently said, "the repeal of the four years' law was sought no longer (after 1840), because the law proved to be one of the most convenient means of the prostitution of the public service to personal and party ends."

This law ought to be repealed. So long as this law remains in force it is useless to look for a thorough reform of the civil service, and reformers should direct all their efforts to secure its repeal. Petitions to this effect are now being presented to Congress and ought to receive the attention they merit.

HOW DID THE WORLD EVOLVE ITSELF?

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY SIR EDMUND BECKETT, Q.C., BEFORE THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE OF LONDON.

(Continued.)

Moreover, the only true Religion consists in acknowledging—first, this new kind of Unknowable; and secondly, the impossibility of knowing any more about it. Every religion that professes to know anything more of it is, "ipso facto," irreligious and absurd. Yet that is just what is professed by every religion that is or ever has been, however else they differ. Nay, Mr. Spencer himself is as irreligious and absurd in that respect as the believers in Jupiter or Mormon or Mambo Jumbo; for he professes to know all the functions of his Supreme Reality and Power—viz., that it "works in us," and made and maintains, and practically is, persistent or indelible but transformable Force and nothing else. We profess to know no more of our Supreme Power than it has told us. Mr. Spencer professes to know everything by the light of his own intellect. Which then is the most "irreligious and absurd," according to his own dictum? The religious or ethical parts of the Spencerian Philosophy have been discussed by former writers and speakers in this Society. For that reason, and also because this particular question of design in creation involves no metaphysics (for which I confess to having no taste), I shall confine myself to the theory of the undersigned cosmogony propounded in those "First Principles of Synthetic Philosophy or unified knowledge," which I have already described almost in the author's words, only rather more briefly. Whether one of his admirers in a scientific journal is right or not in pronouncing his "work of the calibre of that which Newton did, though it as far surpasses that in vastness of performance as the railway surpasses the Sedan chair," he does unquestionably far surpass Newton in vastness of language, both as

to quantity and quality. We shall presently see also the real nature of the "clearness of thought and of expression" which it is equally the fashion of his admirers to glorify.

Though it is his philosophy and not his style that we are concerned with here, they are inseparable in this respect, that he claims the right to call everything by new names, and to use old ones in any sense he pleases, and for just as long as he pleases, without prejudice to the right of tacitly resuming the old senses, or intending his readers to do so, whenever he finds it convenient. Thus nobody must suppose that his "Differentiation and Integration," which are the chief agents of Evolution with him, have any kind of relation to their well-known meaning in the only science in which they have hitherto been used. Mathematical "differentiation" means infinitely small variations according to known laws, and "integration" is the mode of summing them up between any prescribed limits. But with Mr. Spencer, and the automatic school generally, "differentiation" is the functionary always at hand to account for any kind of change that is wanted, large or small, normal or abnormal, and indeed generally the latter. And they always assume that any change they want can come of itself, and requires neither cause nor explanation. He never condescends to define his "differentiation" at all; plainly to be used in a new sense, in a new system of Philosophy which is to be the "unification of all knowledge," whatever that means.

The nearest approach to a definition of integration is this, at p. 281 of his last edition:—"The change from a diffused imperceptible state to a concentrated perceptible state is an integration of matter and dissipation of motion? Imperceptible to whom? Does it merely mean diffused too thin for our eyes to see it without, or with some scientific help? And what has our power of seeing it to do with its integration? That must be something absolute. And why need it involve dissipation of motion? The particles of the thinnest nebula need have no motion at all until gravity is turned in, though the particle gas kept gaseous by heat have. They may be actually gains of motion only by integration under gravity, which, in plain English means no more than "condensation," and the "imperceptible" means nothing at all.

That is an initial specimen of Spencerian lucidity of thought and diction. But a more important one is the "final formula," or definition of Evolution itself, after 396 pages of preparation and successive amendments; and that is not final or complete after all, as we shall see. However this is it, solemnly printed in italics, as such as a fundamental truth deserves:—"Evolution is an integration of matter and concomitant dissipation of motion; during which the matter passes from an indefinite, incoherent homogeneity to a definite, coherent heterogeneity; and during which the retained motion undergoes a parallel transformation." This then is the true solution of the problem of cosmogony; or rather it would be, but for the troublesome circumstance that Evolution practically never is "simple," but always more or less "compound;" from which circumstance he admits that "complexity arises." But, complex or not, we must face the reality. It is no use dwelling on an imaginary and abstract "simplicity" such as this, deluging as it might be. Unfortunately the chapter on "Simple and Compound Evolution" goes no nearer to a definition of them than telling us that "when it is integration of matter and dissipation of motion only, it remains simple, and when it is 'something more' it becomes compound" (p. 304); and it always is something more. On the whole we learn (p. 330) that compound Evolution involves both integration and its opposite, going on together; and so that "final formula," for practical use in cosmogony, has to be modified accordingly; only he never does modify it accordingly into any "perfect" form, beyond its "final" one. Therefore we must try to understand a little more about "indefinite incoherent homogeneity."

First we find then, that the primeval homogeneous mass or nebula, which it suits Mr. Spencer to start with, must not be infinite; because